



PUBLISHED DAILY AND TRI-WEEKLY BY  
EDGAR SNOWDEN.  
**ALEXANDRIA:**  
MONDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 5, 1859.

### Congress.

The session of Congress commences in Washington to-day. Enough members arrived on Saturday and yesterday, we presume, to secure a quorum in both Houses. Canvases were held by various parties on Saturday, relative to the organization of the House. We cannot, of course, say when this will be effected, or when the President's Message will be sent in. But we will endeavor to lay the Message before our readers as soon as practicable, after it shall have been transmitted to Congress.

### The Virginia Legislature.

The General Assembly of this State, convenes to-day at the Capitol, in Richmond. We shall endeavor to give our readers during its session daily succinct but accurate reports of the business transacted. We hope that all its measures will tend to the welfare of the Commonwealth, and the peace and happiness of our citizens. The Governor's Message is usually sent in on the first day of the session.

### Home Manufactures.

We publish with much satisfaction various statements, showing the disposition on the part of the Southern people, to commence the good work of encouraging Home Manufactures. It is a policy which we have always advocated. It is the one which will make us strong and independent. Locally, it is one, which, if carried out, would do more to benefit Alexandria, than any thing else. Here is the point for the establishment of Manufactures of all kinds, for the South. Here should be MANUFACTORIES of Agricultural Implements, Boots and Shoes, Clothing, Carriages, Harness, Hats and Caps, and a thousand other things, which are now purchased abroad, but which ought to be made and sold here, as cheap, as they can be purchased elsewhere in the country.— Cotton Factories should be followed by Wooden Factories—and these should be encouraged by Southern Merchants and the Southern people. Speed the good work! This is the quiet, peaceable, constitutional way, to support Southern Institutions.

We learn, with much regret, from the Baltimore American, that in consequence of the impaired state of health of Benjamin Halliwell, he has been compelled to resign the Presidency of the Faculty of the Maryland Agricultural College. This dedication on his part will be much regretted, as his peculiar fitness for the responsible duties of the station rendered his acceptance very desirable. May his health be soon restored, and his life prolonged, is the sincere wish of his many friends!

As far as the people of Virginia know, and as they have every reason to believe, the colored population of the State, bond and free, are, and have been, throughout this Harper's Ferry affair, entirely trustworthy and faithful. Many of them have shown, in every way they could, their actual abhorrence of the purposes and crimes of Brown and his associates. The fact is gratifying to the citizens of the State, and a conclusive answer to most of the assaults, in words, made at the North upon our people and their institutions. The conduct of the population we refer to, deserves our loudest commendation and encouragement. It is our belief that the designs of our enemies have not been able to corrupt the fidelity of those in whose behalf there is elsewhere such an affluence of philanthropy. Our proper course is to prevent, if possible, all attempts to mislead the ignorant, and not to turn upon them harshly, because of the villainy of persons out of the State. And this, we believe, is the general sentiment of slaveholders, and all other citizens of the South. The Southern people are generous, and while they know they must have proper discipline and vigilance, they are not harsh or unjust.

To those Northern papers taking decided and mainly ground in condemnation of the late treasonable attempt of the Harper's Ferry conspirators, we can only express our sense of their honor and justice. May their facts and appeals have an abiding influence for good, among the people of the North!—This is the time for conservative men to rebuke fanaticism, and endeavor to maintain the Constitution and the Union.

The "Brown fever," as it is now called, will be sedulously nursed and aggravated by the Abolitionists at the North. It is now full time for the really conservative people at the North to come out from among, and be separated from, the agitators and incendiaries.

Albert Pike—the poet, lawyer, soldier and orator—has applied to the Cherokee nation, it is stated, to be naturalized. Does the poet dream of an Arcadian era yet to be known among the North American Indians?

A writer in the Richmond Enquirer argues, very properly, that it is useless to preach of "Southern Rights and Independence," and "not practice what we teach!"

The New York Commercial Advertiser admits that Brown deserved his fate—and that he is not the man "to justify here-worship."

The Winans steamer left Baltimore on Friday last, on an experimental and trial trip to sea.

The late restrictions upon travellers on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, have been removed.

### News of the Day.

"To show the very age and body of the times."

The San Francisco Herald states that Mr. Elzhanth L. Sanderson has commenced an action against the Pacific Mail Steamship Company, claiming \$300,000 damages. The alleged grounds of complaint are, that the plaintiff, in November, 1856, being a practicing attorney, took passage for himself and wife on the steamship S. M. for New York. On arriving at Aspinwall, a detention of fifteen days took place, in consequence of there being no vessel in readiness to convey the passengers from that port. Plaintiff was attacked by the fever peculiar to the isthmus, from which he has never recovered, and from the effects of which his wife died in May 1856.

A gale of wind of extreme violence prevailed at Chicago on the 25th ultimo, and the walls of even the most substantial buildings, were shaken to their foundations, in some instances so violently that the plastering was broken from the ceilings. About seven o'clock a terrific crash was heard, which was proved to proceed from the fall of the walls of the new Music Hall erected by Mr. Bryan, in Post Office alley, and which had succumbed to the force of the wind. The walls of the building had reached a height of fifty two feet from the pavement.

Parson Brownlow, of the Knoxville Whig, writes from New York as follows, concerning the contemplated invasion of Mexico by the K. G. C's. "Gen. Bickley, (of Baltimore), spent some time in my room last evening. His expedition to Mexico now numbers nineteen thousand men, and he is provided with ample means. One thousand men are in Tennessee, and these will move first and move without delay. I predict that the General will capture all Mexico before Spring, and that he will have control of Vera Cruz in ninety days."

Hon. Jacob Broom has called upon the members of the Executive Committee of the American National Council to convene at the American Hotel, opposite Independence Hall, in the city of Philadelphia, on Wednesday, the 21st day of December instant, at 12 o'clock M., to take into consideration matters of national importance, and to adopt such a course of patriotic action in reference to the approaching election of President and Vice President of the United States, as may be deemed proper.

The Mobile papers record the death of a singular character in that city. Mrs. Farat Moran who was found dead at her residence. The Register says: Mrs. Moran had been living in the house where she died, for some years, and often locked herself up for days at a time, and never allowed any of her neighbors to visit her. Notwithstanding that she had plenty of this world's goods, she lived apparently in extreme poverty.

The protest of the Moorish government against the conduct of Spain in declaring war, is published. It asserts that the demands of Spain in each instance upon being conceded to, were followed by increased pretensions and also Morocco protests against Spain because that on three occasions she paid no attention to her engagements and declared war without legitimate notice.

The gold coinage of the United States mint, in Philadelphia, for the month of November, was \$128,278, wholly in double eagles and gold dollars. The silver coinage was \$83,000, and of cents three million three hundred thousand, of the value of \$33,000. The total coinage of the month was \$244,278, the whole number of pieces being \$3,471,310.

The British government is about to abolish the system of purchasing commissions in its army, the price actually paid for a lieutenant-colonelcy of a regiment of horse having ranged from \$60,000 to \$90,000. The actual holders, in every case to be reimbursed out of the treasury, for the purchase money paid by them.

In the case of Ogier vs. the Pennsylvania Railroad, tried in Chester county, last week, the jury rendered a verdict in favor of Mrs. Ogier, the plaintiff, of \$10,250. The cars, it will be remembered, came in contact with Dr. Ogier's carriage and killed him on the spot. Mr. Bond, who was also injured, was awarded \$500 damages.

The prosecution against Dr. J. C. Ayer, of Lowell, for stabbing R. S. Fay, Jr., the Treasurer of the Middlesex Mills, has been withdrawn because the prosecutor found that no complaint against him could be sustained. The fact is, that Dr. Ayer merely defended himself as best he might, with a penknife he happened to have in his hand.

A suspicious character was arrested on Thursday night in Jefferson County. He was arrested by the slaves on the plantation of Dr. W. F. Alexander, and the account of himself is very confused. He appeared in a uniform almost similar to our State regimentals, and can give no account why he was entitled to such clothing.

The large barn of James M. Brown, esq., near Queenstown, Queen Anne county, Md., was destroyed by fire on Thursday night last, including 600 bushels of wheat and 1,250 bushels of corn. The loss is about \$3,000. The fire was no doubt the work of an incendiary.

The dispatch received by the steamer Europa, announcing that the Chinese had repudiated the American treaty, is said to be ridiculed by the Department of State at Washington, as a part of the systematic effort in England to understate the triumph of our diplomacy.

The receipts of flour at New York for the last two months have been unusually large, the total since October 1st amounting to 1,300,000 bbls., against 1,095,000 for the same period of 1858, and the receipts now continuing at the rate of 150,000 bbls. per week.

The New York American Majority Convention, having received a letter from Mr. Ogden declining the nomination, thereupon resolved to support Mr. Harney for Mayor, Judge Bronson for Corporation Counsel, and Wm. T. Pinckney for Aldman-house Governor.

The candidates for School Commissioners in New York, are stated to be mostly new and untried men, whose qualifications for the important trust are unknown to persons conversant with the subject. The Journal of Commerce complains that every ward has an anti-Bible ticket.

Wonderful accounts are given in the California papers of the richness of the famous Washoe valley, or rather Carson valley, silver mines. The vein now being worked is situated just over the line of California, in Utah Territory, distant about 175 miles from Sacramento.

The Earl Grey, whose death in England was reported a day or two ago, was the son of the eminent British statesman who presided over the Cabinet which carried the reform bill through Parliament. He was early known as Lord Howick.

Rev. Thomas Whaley has been elected Assistant Professor in Union Theological Seminary, Va., vice Rev. W. J. Hoge, D. D., resigned.

It is stated that the annual demand for penny postage in Great Britain, is a little short of five hundred million.

Capt. B. G. Handy, late master of the barque Phoenix of Nantucket, which was wrecked on Elbow Island, on the 12th of October, arrived at San Francisco in the whale ship Massachusetts, and furnishes an account of the loss of his own vessel, and that of the barque Ocean Wave, of New Bedford, Capt. Baker, with all hands in a snow storm.

A part of the lands and lots, belonging to Col. Thomas J. Boyd, at Wytheville, Va., have been sold under a decree of Court, and I brought the sum of \$65,298. One half acre had brought \$810. The sale of the residue of the lots, Grayson Springs and other property, has been postponed until Spring.

It is said that there is a movement on foot among men of wealth and political influence, quite capable of carrying out their programme, to furnish the Liberal Government of Mexico the means and men to overcome the opposition in that country.

The distillery of John Rader, esq., in Rockbridge county, Va., was destroyed by fire, on Wednesday night the 23rd of last month. The fire is believed to have been the work of an incendiary.

It is stated that Mr. Everett will continue to write for the N. Y. Ledger, after the Mount Vernon papers are concluded. His new engagement is not in behalf of the Mount Vernon fund.

An interesting little son of Judge Haun, the new U. S. Senator from California, died of throat disease only six hours after his landing at New York.

### Telegraphic Dispatches.

Boston, Dec. 2.—The colored population are holding meetings, keeping the day in memory of Brown. Most of them wear crape on the arm, and their places of business are closed. A mass meeting of the citizens is called for this evening at the Tremont Temple. A motion was introduced in both branches of the Legislature to adjourn, but it was negatived by a large majority. The bells were tolled in various towers adjoining, flags placed at half-mast, and other tokens of respect manifested by the fanatics on all hands.

Washington, December 24.—There have been tonight meetings of delegations of Congressmen from several Northern States.

New Orleans, Dec. 1.—Gen. Twiggs has not stopped the troops for the Rio Grande; only one company was countermanded.

The Mississippi Legislature has taken favorable action for the organization of the military of the State, and putting it on an active footing.

New York, Dec. 2.—The Europa's mails for the South left here this evening. Heretofore Liverpool carried circulars. The demand during the week has been immense, and being pretty well stocked for the present and inclined to await the arrival of the liberal supplies now at sea. Meantime holders are anxious sellers, and in order to make sales are compelled to make a slight concession, but not sufficiently important to warrant a reduction of previous quotations.

Atlantic City, Dec. 2.—A small steamer, painted black, with white stripes, has been lying at anchor in the inlet since Wednesday last. A man came ashore to-day who said the vessel was from New York, bound for Havana, and had been purchased by the Spanish government, and had not in here in connection with the war.

The body was several times examined, and his pulse did not cease beating for thirty-five minutes. It was then cut down and placed in the coffin and conveyed under a military escort to the depot, and there put in a car to be conveyed to Harper's Ferry by special train at four o'clock.

The whole arrangements were carried out with a precision and military strictness that was every way proper.

The general conviction is everywhere entertained that the rumors of intended rescue were altogether an egregious hoax.

That morning, Brown executed an instrument, empowering Sheriff Campbell to administer on property of his in this State, and directions to pay over the proceeds of the sale of his weapons, if recovered, to his widow and children.

Further particulars.—Sheriff Campbell had the prisoner, farrowed in his cell, and Brown returned his thanks to him for his kindness, and spoke of Captain Pate as a brave man. He was the condemned to the cells of his fellow prisoners, desiring to take his leave of them. Entering the cell of Campbell and Green, he told them to stand up like men and not betray their friends. He handed each a quarter of a dollar, saying that he had no further use for money, and having said this, he made them a final farewell.

Next he visited Cook and Coppe, who were chained together. Addressing Cook he remarked, "You have made false statements." Cook asked, "What do you mean?" Brown replied, "Why in stating that I sent you to Harper's Ferry." Cook replied, "Did you not tell me in Pittsburgh to come to Harper's Ferry and see if Forbes had made disclosures?" Captain Brown, "No, sir. You know I protested against your coming." To this Cook only responded: "Captain Brown, we remember differently." As he said this he dropped his head, and Brown, in contempt, turned away, and, addressing Coppe, said: "I am glad you also made false statements, but I am glad to hear you have contradicted them. Stand up like a man." Brown also handed Coppe a quarter, and then shaking both by the hand, parted with them.

The prisoner was next taken to Stevens' cell, and kindly interchanged with him a good-bye. Stevens said: "Good-bye, Captain. I know you are going to a better land." Brown replied: "I know I am, and urged Stevens to bear up and not betray his friends. He then gave Stevens a quarter, and then took leave of him. He did not visit Hallett, as he has always persisted in denying any knowledge of him.

On his way to the scaffold, Mr. Saddler, the undertaker, remarked to Capt. Brown: "You are a game man, Captain." To which Capt. Brown replied: "Yes, I was so trained; it was one of the lessons of my mother; but it is hard to part from friends, though newly made." Then he remarked: "This is a beautiful country—I never had the pleasure of seeing it before." On reaching the field in which the gallows were erected, Brown said: "Why are none but military allowed in the enclosure? I am sorry the citizens have been kept out."

As he reached the gallows, he observed Mr. Hunter and Mayor Green standing near, to whom he said: "Gentlemen, good-bye!" his voice not faltering in the least.

While on the scaffold, Sheriff Campbell asked if he would take a handkerchief in his hand to drop a signal when he was ready. He replied, "No—I don't want it; but do not detain me any longer than is actually necessary."

Shortly after the execution, and while the body was being taken to the depot, a great excitement was occasioned in the town by the arrival of a horseman, announcing that "Wheelabout," the late residence of Gen. W. Turner, shot at Harper's Ferry, was on fire; that the dwelling was burnt, and the fire was extending to the farm buildings of W. F. Turner, who was in town and had left home at 10 o'clock, who said that several of his horses had died very suddenly, and also some of his sheep, supposed to have been poisoned. He said he intended to have the contents of their stomachs examined by a chemist.

The stock of Mr. Castleman and Mr. Myers, in the same neighborhood, had also died very mysteriously. The excitement on hearing of this, that the couple had been prepared to go out and inquire into the truth of the report about the fire.

The body of Capt. Brown arrived at the Ferry at 5 o'clock, and will be taken on by Mr. Brown and his friends, by express, direct to Albany, N. Y. It is desired to avoid all public demonstrations on the route to

Good News for Home.—We were gratified to learn, from the President of the U. S. Council, that the Committee of that body authorized to contract for \$50,000 worth of iron pipes for the water works extension, had determined to give the contract to one of our own citizens. A few more such moves as this in the right direction, and our mechanics will be prepared to furnish all we need for public or private purposes.—Rich. Ad.

Contrast.—While many of the country friends kindly aided in sending supplies to town for the benefit of the military, we regret to state that others have failed to do so, and have even taken advantage of the necessities of the people of the town. We hope we shall not have occasion to refer to this subject again.—Charlestown Free Press.

### The Execution of John Brown.

At an early hour last Friday, Charlestown was in more than usual stir, even for the stirring times that have fallen upon that neighborhood. Soon the movements of the military drew all the citizens of the place and all others who had been able to gain admittance to the town, to the vicinity of the place assigned for the execution.

The prisoner was brought out of jail at eleven o'clock. Before leaving he bade adieu to all his fellow-prisoners, and was very affectionate to all except Cook. He charged Cook with having deceived and misled him in relation to the support he was to receive from the day's. He said he was led by him to believe they were wife for insurrection, but he had found that his representations were false. Cook denied the charge, and made but little reply to Brown. The prisoner then told the sheriff he was ready, when his arms were pinioned, and he walked to the door, apparently calm and cheerful. He wore a black shawl and the same clothes worn during his trial. As he came out he was taken under guard of the military. Six companies of infantry and one troop of horse, with Gen. Taliaferro and his entire staff, were deploying in front of the jail.

At four o'clock the jail an open wagon, with a pine box in which was a fine oak coffin, was waiting for him. He looked around and spoke to several persons whom he recognized, and walking down the steps, was assisted to enter the wagon, and took his seat on the box containing his coffin, along with Jailor Avis. He looked with interest on the fine military display, but made no remark. The wagon moved off as soon as he had taken his seat, flanked with two files of riflemen in close order.

On reaching the field the military had already full possession, and the prisoners were kept back at the point of the bayonet from taking any position except that assigned them—nearly a quarter of a mile from the scaffold. Through the determined persistence of Dr. Rawlings, of Frank Leslie's paper, the order excluding the press was partially rescinded, and the reporters were assigned a position near the General's staff. The prisoner walked up the steps firmly, and was the first man on the gallows.—Jailor Avis and Sheriff Campbell stood by his side, and after shaking hands and bidding an affectionate adieu, thanked them for their kindness. He then put the cap over his nose, and he rose up the cap over his nose. He then asked him to step on the trap. He replied, "You must lead me for I cannot see." The rope now being adjusted, and the military order given, the soldiers marched and countermanded, and took their position as if an enemy was in sight. Nearly 7 minutes were thus occupied, the prisoner standing meanwhile. Mr. Avis inquired if he was not tired. Brown replied, "No, but don't keep me waiting longer than necessary."

At fifteen minutes past eleven, the trap fell. A slight grasping of the hands and a twirling of the muscles was visible, and then all was quiet.

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### Slave Property.

The following is the form of a printed memorial now in circulation for the procurement of signatures, the original manuscript copy having attached to it a number of respectable names from Clarke county: "A Memorial, praying an Act to exempt a limited amount of slave property from process for debt."

To the Honorable Senate and House of Delegates of Virginia. The undersigned citizens of Frederick, Jefferson and Clarke counties, respectfully represent to you an humble body that it is highly desirable for the perpetuation of the present social relations of Virginia, for the maintenance of peace within her borders, and for a command of interest amongst all her citizens, that the institution of negro slavery should be fostered by such Legislative acts as may be calculated to bring the ownership of negro property within the means of the Poor as well as of the Rich, and believing that nothing will promote this end more effectually than to exempt a limited amount of such property from all legal process for debt, your petitioners pray the passage of a law guaranteeing to the family now possessed of it, who may hereafter be possessed of a negro or negroes, the right to the enjoyment of property in said negroes to the value of the good slave, free from all Judgments, Executions, and Liens of every kind, except where such Liens already exist. Your petitioners believe that under such a law many mechanics and laboring men generally would purchase one servant to wait on their families, and thus that the strong bonds of a common interest would be added to the social feeling which impels the citizens of Virginia to resist alike invasion from without and treason at home."

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Brown's Interview with his Wife. The interview between the prisoner and his wife was characteristic of the man, and the directions given for the management and distribution of his property embraced all the minor details of a last will and testament. General Taliaferro was also present, and Captain Brown urged that his wife be allowed to remain with him all night. To this the General refused to assent, allowing them but four hours. On first meeting they kissed and affectionately embraced, and Mrs. Brown shed a few tears, but immediately checked her feeling. They stood embraced for some five minutes, and then Mrs. Brown was unable to speak. The prisoner only gave way for a moment and was soon calm and collected and remained firm throughout the interview. At the close they shook hands but did not embrace, and as they parted he said "God bless you and the children." Mrs. Brown replied, "God have mercy on you," and continued calm until she left the room, when she remained in tears a few moments and then prepared to depart. The interview took place in the parlour of Captain Avis, and the prisoner was free from manacles of any kind.

They then sat side by side on the sofa, and after discussing family matters, proceeded to business. She stated that he desired his property to pass entirely into her possession, and appeared to place full confidence in her ability to manage it properly for the benefit of his younger children. He requested her to remain at North Elba, in New York, on the farm where she now resides, which belongs to her. He was desirous that his younger children should be educated, and if she could not obtain facilities for their education at home, to have them sent to a boarding school. He then gave directions and dictated to Sheriff Campbell his will, which directed that all his property should go to his wife, with the exception of a few presents and bequests which he made. To one of his sons he gave a double-spined watch, and to another he gave a gun, and directed that he should take a tomb or monument that marks the grave of his father, at North Elba, and have engraved on it his name, age, and the manner of his death—together with the cause for which he had suffered death—which he directs shall remain at North Elba as long as his family resides there. To each of his children he bequeathed a sum of \$50, and to each of his daughters a bible, to cost \$5 each, to be purchased out of money coming to him from his father's estate; also, a bible, to cost \$3, to be presented to each of his grand children, and that \$80 each be paid to three individuals whom he named, if they can be found—and, if not, to their legal representatives, directing the best manner by which their present localities can be ascertained.

During the course of the conversation Mrs. Brown asked him if he had heard that General Smith had become insane, and had been sent to an Asylum at Utica. He replied that he had read of it in the papers, and was sorry to hear it, but immediately changed the subject.

The subject of the death of his two sons was spoken of, and Mrs. Brown remarked that she had made some effort whilst at Harper's Ferry for the recovery of their bodies, to which she had been refused, and that she had kindly consented to give his assistance.

Captain Brown remarked that he would also like the remains of the two Thompsons removed, if they could be found, but suggested that it would be best to take his body with the bodies of his four sons, and get a pile of pine logs and burn them all together—that it would be much better and less expensive to thus gather up all their ashes together and take them to their final resting place. Sheriff Campbell told him that this would not be permitted within the State, and Mrs. Brown objected to the proposition altogether.

The prisoner said that he contemplated his death with composure and calmness. It would undoubtedly be pleasant to live longer, but it was the will of God, and he should accept of his lot as he was content. It was doubtless for the good of the cause, and he was prepared to submit to it. His will without a murmur. Mrs. Brown becoming depressed at these remarks, he bid her cheer up, and told her that his body would soon be with her, and that they would be united again in Heaven.

With regard to his execution, he said he desired no religious ceremonies either in the jail or on the scaffold, from ministers who consented to or approved of slavery; that he wished the execution to be witnessed by a few decent slave children, and a good old slave mother.—Gen. of Ball. Amer.

TAXES ON MERCHANTS' LICENSES.—Col. Bennett, the Auditor of Public Accounts, has furnished the Richmond Whig with an interesting and important official paper, showing the several classifications of the merchants, their aggregate sales, and per centage on each class, for the year 1858, etc., etc.

It appears from this statement, that there are 6,633 merchants of all classes in this State, and that the total amount of their sales for the year 1858, is fifty-nine millions two hundred and fifty-four thousand dollars; from which the State collects the sum of \$23,976 34, or a per centage of about three-fourths of one per cent, for the privilege of selling this amount of goods, wares, and merchandise. It further appears that two thousand six hundred persons pay two per cent, at least on their sales, whilst one hundred and twelve persons, who sell in the aggregate \$12,889,000 pay less than one-fourth of one per cent, on their sales.

The Auditor thinks this establishes an injustice to the small and feeble trader, which might be readily avoided by attaching the same per centage on all sides, as the basis of taxation.

"It is obvious," continues the State Auditor, "that by charging a certain per centage on all sales, and attaching the condition that no sale, taken in connection with the total abolition of all State taxes on direct foreign importations, now existing, a powerful impetus would be given to our import trade."

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